

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 01286 271308Z

43

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EA-07 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-11 NSAE-00 OPIC-03

SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 XMB-02

SS-15 NSC-05 /098 W

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P 271208Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3616

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 1286

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, IN

SUBJECT: CIEC: INDIAN VIEWS ON COMMISSION SESSIONS AND ROLE OF
LDC CORPOORDINATION

REF: STATE 14278, STATE 15466

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED PROSPECTS FOR CIEC COMMISSION MEETINGS
WITH S. S. MARATHE, COORDINATOR AND LEADER OF THE INDIAN DELEGATION,
JANUARY 27. EARLIER MEETING PREVENTED BY HIS ILLNESS AND INTERVENING
HOLIDAY.

2. TIMING AND DURATION OF MEETINGS: DURING OPENING EXCHANGE
MARATHE MENTIONED THAT HIS COMMITMENTS IN DELHI WOULD NOT PERMIT
HIM TO REMAIN IN PARIS FOR EXTENDED PERIODS. EMBOFF COMMENTED THIS
WAS EXACTLY SITUATION FACED BY HEADS OF US DELEGATION TO CIEC
COMMISSIONS. WE FELT SUCCESS OF COMMISSIONS REQUIRED PRESENCE
AT SESSIONS OF POLICY OFFICIALS WHO COULD ONLY BE AVAILABLE ON
SHORT-TERM BASIS. MARATHE REPLIED THAT MODALITY OF FUNCTIONING
OF COMMISSIONS--"THIS NEW CREATION" HE CALLED THEM--WOULD STILL
HAVE TO BE WORKED OUT. BUT SOME FORMULA HAD TO BE DEvised, HE
FELT, WHICH WOULD ALLOW BOTH FOR BROAD AGENDA, THEORETICALLY OPEN
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TO INDIVIDUAL CONCERNS OF ANY MEMBER, AND FOR FOCUS ON CONCRETE,

SOLVABLE PROBLEMS. ANSWER HE SAW WAS COMMISSION SESSION WHICH WOULD FORMALLY RUN FOR SEVERAL WEEKS ("NOT AS MUCH AS TWO MONTHS"). A COMMISSION WOULD NOT MEET CONTINUOUSLY DURING THIS PERIOD, BUT FORMAL SESSIONS WOULD PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR EXPOUNDING OF GOVERNMENT POSITIONS AND FOR SOME PROGRESS AT OFFICIAL DELEGATION LEVEL. THIS ACTIVITY WOULD BE SUPPLEMENTED BY MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION FROM TIME TO TIME AT THE LEVEL OF POLICY OFFICIALS FROM CAPITALS (I.E., MARATHE HIMSELF FOR THEOI). THE TIMING OF THESE MEETINGS WOULD BE SET IN ADVANCE WHEN LOWER LEVEL WORK REACHED A CERTAIN STAGE. THEY WOULD LAST A FEW DAYS; A FULL WEEK WOULD BE DIFFICULT BUT POSSIBLE IF NECESSARY.

3. ASKED ABOUT RESTRAINTS ON LDC PARTICIPATION WHICH MIGHT BE POSED BY NEED TO COORDINATE BROADER G-19 (NOT TO SAY G-77) POSITIONS, MARATHE REPLIED THAT THE FORCE OF THE COMMISSCGNS' WORK DEPENDED ON ABILITY OF LDC PARTICIPANTS TO REPRESENT GLOBAL INTERESTS OF DEVELOPING WORLD. IN CONTRAST TO DEVELOPED COUNTRY COMMISSION MEMBERS -- FOR WHOM OECD PROVIDED WELL-ESTABLISHED (AND CONVENIENTLY LOCATED) MECHANISM FOR COORDINATION OF JOINT POSITIONS -- THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES HAD TO HAMMER OUT THEIR POSITIONS ON AN AD HOC BASIS. BUT, HE ADDED, SOME BALANCE HAD TO BE REACHED: IT COULD NOT BE PERMITTED THAT ONE OR TWO COUNTRIES SO INTERFERED WITH BUILDING OF CONSENSUS AMONG THE LDC'S THAT EFFECTIVE NEGOTIATION WITH THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES BECAME IMPOSSIBLE.

4. MARATHE'S REMARKS ON MAKE-UP AND FUNCTIONING OF GOI DELEGATION TO PARIS COMMISSIONS BEING REPORTED SEPTEL. SAXBE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC COOPERATION, LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, COMMITTEES, MEETING DELEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NEWDE01286
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760030-0934
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760118/aaaaapho.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 14278, 76 STATE 15466
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <17 MAY 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIEC: INDIAN VIEWS ON COMMISSION SESSIONS AND ROLE OF LDC CORPOORDINATION
TAGS: EGEN, IN, CIEC, (MARATHE, S S)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006